

**Amendments to the Drawings:**

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 3. This sheet, which includes Fig. 3, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 3. In Figure 3, reference numeral 40 has been added.

Attachment:      Replacement Sheet  
                     Annotated Sheet

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Reconsideration of this application in light of the above amendments and following comments is courteously solicited.

Applicants submit concurrently herewith a new Figure 3 in response to the examiner's drawing objection. Reference numeral 40 has been added to Figure 3 and thus it is submitted the drawings now comply with 37 C.F.R. 1.84.

The specification has been amended so as to delete the reference to the WO application referred to in paragraphs [0004], [0006] and [0023]. Applicants have inserted therein reference to the corresponding published U.S. application, US 2003/0127398 A1 which was published on July 10, 2003 and is now U.S. Patent 6,860,990. The reference to the corresponding U.S. application and patent is proper for incorporation. The reference by incorporation does not include any new matter.

Claim 18 has been amended so as to delete the term "for" as suggested by the examiner. In light of the foregoing amendment and the indication of allowable subject matter, it is submitted that all of the claims 18-33 are now in condition for allowance and an early indication of same is respectfully requested.

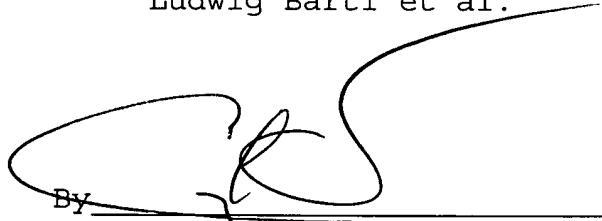
An earnest and thorough attempt has been made by the undersigned to resolve the outstanding issues in this case and place same in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions or feels that a telephone or personal interview would be helpful in resolving any outstanding issues which remain in this application after consideration of this amendment, the Examiner is courteously invited to

telephone the undersigned and the same would be gratefully appreciated.

It is submitted that the claims as amended herein patentably define over the art relied on by the Examiner and early allowance of same is courteously solicited.

If any fees are required in connection with this case, it is respectfully requested that they be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-0184.

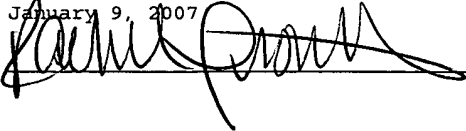
Respectfully submitted,  
Ludwig Bartl et al.



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Date: January 9, 2007

I, Rachel Piscitelli, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on January 9, 2007





**Fig. 3**

